

NEWS RELEASE

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BLM Seeks Comments at Socorro Public Meeting Part of Watershed Planning for Socorro and Catron Counties

SOCORRO -- The U.S. Bureau of Land Management will host a public meeting June 4 to hear comments about and invite participation in establishing priority watersheds in Socorro and Catron Counties, according to Kate Padilla, BLM-Socorro field office manager.

The meeting is scheduled to begin at 5:30 p.m. June 4 at the BLM-Socorro field office, 198 Neel Ave., NW.

"The meeting is a part of follow-on planning required by the Resource Management Plan Amendment and Environmental Impact Statement, which established standards for public land heath, especially as it pertains to livestock grazing," according to Mark Lane, BLM-Socorro assistant field manager.

Mark Matthews, a BLM rangeland management specialist, said, "We want to ensure that all interested parties and especially land users have a voice in how these watersheds are established and managed."

The BLM manages about 13 million acres in New Mexico. The Socorro field office is responsible for about 1.5 million of those acres in Socorro and Catron Counties.

Information about the June 4 meeting is available by calling Lane at 838-1245 or Matthews, 838-1250.